

TELEGRAPH SERVICE

Agreement signed at Rome April 24, 1945

Entered into force April 24, 1945

Obsolete

Department of State files

Whereas RCA Communications, Inc. and Cable and Wireless Limited are operating radio stations in Italy for the maintenance of direct radio service from Italy to the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, respectively, at the request of the Military authorities of those Governments and will continue to operate such service so long as there is a military necessity therefor, the Delegations appointed on behalf of the Governments of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Italy to discuss the opening of public telegraph service between Italy on the one hand and the United States of America and the United Kingdom on the other agree as follows:

(1) A public radiotelegraph service shall be opened immediately (subject to the provisions of paragraph 5) between Italy on the one hand and the United States of America and beyond and the United Kingdom and beyond on the other and shall initially be conducted solely by the RCA Communications, Inc. and Cable and Wireless Limited respectively, except that collection and delivery in Italy shall be performed by the Government of Italy or its nominee.

(2) During the period of such operation by RCA Communications, Inc. and Cable and Wireless Limited, those companies shall pay a reasonable rental for such land and facilities as they may use from the date of opening of public service by such companies. In the event that the companies and the owner or owners of the land or facilities shall be unable to agree as to the amount of such reasonable rental, the amount shall be determined by a board consisting of the Minister of Communications of the Italian Government and the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission or representatives duly designated by them, with a third member to be designated by the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theatre.

(3) During the same period, the Government of Italy or the entity designated by it shall be entitled to receive a terminal charge in respect of collection and delivery of public telegrams.

(4) When military necessity no longer requires RCA Communications, Inc. and Cable and Wireless Limited to handle military traffic including telegrams sent by the troops and military press from Italy to the United States of America and the United Kingdom, the two companies will simultaneously relinquish to the Government of Italy or such entity as it may designate operation of the Italian terminals of the radiotelegraph services on those routes. This will, of course, be dependent on the designated Italian entity making satisfactory provision for any residual military requirements of the United States of America and the United Kingdom. When the two companies so relinquish operation of the Italian terminals, they shall be entitled to remove any or all facilities installed by them except buildings or improvements on buildings.

(5) The opening of public radiotelegraph service as described in the foregoing paragraphs shall come into operation as regards the respective countries as soon as agreement has been reached on the rates between Italy and those countries.

(6) If not in conflict with military requirements, public telegrams between Italy on the one hand and the United States of America and beyond and the United Kingdom and beyond on the other may also be routed via submarine cables (under the terms of paragraph 1 above) at the same rates as those fixed for the radiotelegraph service, such routing to commence after approval by the appropriate United States and United Kingdom authorities, respectively; the above to leave without prejudice in every sense of the question of ownership of such cables.

(7) For the purpose of this agreement, public telegraph service shall be considered to mean all telegraph traffic other than messages filed direct with the companies and originated by the United States and United Kingdom governmental, including military, authorities, members of the Allied Armed Forces and press correspondents duly accredited to the Allied military authorities in Italy.

Done at Rome in triplicate this 24th day of April, 1945.

For the Delegation of Italy:

[Signatures illegible]

For the Delegation of the
United Kingdom of Great
Britain and Northern Ireland:

[Signature illegible]

For the Delegation of the
United States of America:

HARVEY B. OTTERMAN

RAY C. WAKEFIELD

ORLA ST. CLAIR